

820 A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE MADRAS ESTATES LAND ACT, 1908,
FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES (BILL NO. 12 OF 1931)—CONSIDERATION
OF AMENDMENTS RECOMMENDED BY HIS EXCELLENCY
THE GOVERNOR

[Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo] [24th March 1934]

Permanent settlement, as has been explained in Privy Council cases, is but the fixing of the revenue which was variable before and that is why we find in estates which were not settled, the right of the zamindar to sell the property. There are cases of this sort also. The Privy Council held in a case which was settled only in 1905 that mortgages granted in 1896 or so were valid. There is also another principle involved in this. If this principle is not accepted, the foundation for the impartibility of an estate according to custom would disappear, because before a zamindar derives his title by virtue of the permanent settlement, there would not be sufficient period for the customary law to come into operation, for it will take effect only from the date of the permanent settlement. It was only shortly afterwards that such estates were held impartible by custom. If an estate is enjoyed before the permanent settlement, it was held to be impartible under custom and it was so held in the Chellapalli case. So, whether an estate is granted prior to the permanent settlement or after the permanent settlement, it makes no difference, because the zamindar was at no time the owner of the soil, and the zamindar has always been considered to be the assignee of the Government revenue. Even Government cannot be owners of the soil, but they have got only the right to collect the melvaram. If you do not accept that principle, then you will be cutting the very root of the principles on which ryotwari tenure is now held. What will be the position of the tenants if they are treated as ryotwari tenants from year to year? That means Government may eject them to-morrow. If that is the position with regard to ryotwari tracts, the position cannot be different in the case of ryots holding lands in inam villages or zamindari villages. So far as the zamindari estates are concerned, they are governed by the Estates Land Act, but with regard to inam villages, there are two classes of inams which are covered by clauses (c) and (e). Only with regard to inams under clause (d), there is some difference. What was carried by the Council in 1933 was the clause to be found in the Bill of 1905 and apparently owing to pressure of non-official opinion, the modification found in the Act of 1908 was agreed to by Government. It was therefore a clear departure from the principles of the Estates Land Act to this extent. That modification gave rise to a lot of litigation and you will find from memorials presented from time to time, everybody, zamindars, ryots and even inamdars, wanted that they should be saved from ruinous litigation. But, the Madras High Court consistently with the principles on which the Estates Land Act was based, held that the burden of proof was upon the inamdar. I refer to 34 Madras, a case decided by V. Krishnaswami Ayyar, J., in 1910. He also took a very active part in the passing of the Act of 1908 and he held that if an inam is situated in a zamindari, the inamdar cannot have any better right than the zamindar, but if it is situated in a ryotwari tract, then the burden of proof was upon him. That was the position. But in 1918, the Privy Council, again influenced

A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE MADRAS ESTATES LAND ACT, 1908, 821
 FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES (BILL NO. 12 OF 1931)—CONSIDERATION
 OF AMENDMENTS RECOMMENDED BY HIS EXCELLENCY
 THE GOVERNOR

24th March 1934] [Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo]

by English law of landlord and tenant, held that the sovereign was the owner of the soil and they simply relied upon the preamble to Madras Regulation XXXI of 1802, as we find the preamble to all these regulations declare that the zamindars are proprietors and Government the owner of the soil, but subsequently, after due enquiry they held under Madras Regulation V of 1822 that the rights of ryots should not be interfered with by such language. Therefore, it is clear that the Privy Council was merely misled by the language of these regulations and that is now being taken advantage of by the inamdars. That is why we find a good deal of conflict of judicial opinion. In fact, in 41 Mad., and 43 Mad., the two decisions of the Privy Council could not be understood, in the way in which the Privy Council wished them to be understood, by a Full Bench of the Madras High Court, wherein it was held that the burden of proof was upon the ryot and then in 45 Mad., the Privy Council quoted with approval the proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 5th January 1818."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I thought the hon. Member would have exhausted himself. I would request the hon. Member to confine his remarks to the amendment before the House."

* Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—"I am explaining the point, Sir."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"But, I think the hon. Member may reserve all these remarks when the proposed Bill comes up before the House."

* Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—"I am coming to the end, Sir."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I am glad to note that he is coming to the end."

* Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—"I am referring to the several conflicts in decisions of courts, and that is the conflict referred to in the message of His Excellency the Governor. That is why His Excellency was also misled, again owing to the influence of English law relating to landlord and tenant. That is the whole trouble. I am taking a great deal of pains to point out all these difficulties. The Privy Council also was misled in this way. The High Court Judges did not understand the rulings of the Privy Council in 41 and 43 Mad., and so there is a good deal of conflict. In fact, Sir, Judges of the High Court have stated that they could not reconcile the two Privy Council rulings in 45 and 47 Mad., and held that 45 Mad., was overruled by 47 Mad., but subsequently the Privy Council followed 45 Mad. There is therefore a good deal of confusion, because the principles on which the Madras Estates Land Act was based were departed from. That is the whole trouble."

[Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo] [24th March 1934]

"Now, the complexity referred to in the message of His Excellency is also due to that. If the principles of the Estates Land Act and also of the land tenure not only in the Madras Presidency, but also of the whole India are clearly understood, there cannot be any difficulty in understanding the simple position that the inam estate under clause (b) must be an estate and that the ryot must have occupancy rights. In Bengal even minor inams, not only whole inams, are considered as estates. The law of Madras is not different from the law of Bengal in this respect.

"The first amendment of my hon. Friend, Mr. Venkatarama Ayyar, namely, 'that the tenant has wilfully denied the title of the landlord before the date of such suit.' This is applicable to a tenant in an estate governed by the Transfer of Property Act. My friend wants to bring it into line with the English law on the subject and that is due to confusion.

"Coming to the next clause in my friend's amendment, namely, 'that the tenant has intentionally and wilfully committed, etc.,' he entirely relies on section 151 of the Madras Estates Land Act. It is always open to the inamdar to go to a revenue court and avail himself of all the provisions of the Act. There is no reason why he wants this particular clause to be made applicable to the relationship between the inamdar and the tenant.

"With regard to the next amendment, namely, 'that the tenant has not paid within three months after the due date, etc.,' I do not understand the need for this clause. Even according to English law, if a man does not pay for three months, he must be given six months' notice before a suit for ejectment can be filed.

3 p.m. "In regard to the next clause, viz., 'the tenant has collusively allowed, etc.,' I do not think how he will be affected by it, because within twelve years the inamdar can eject a person who has so entered upon the land. I do not see how any person would allow any other person to enter the land to the detriment of his own interest. In that case if you want to take away all the land, you can have recourse to the Estates Land Act. Under section 186, it is open to a landlord to apply to the Collector for acquisition of land. You can do so. Therefore as I said there is a confusion of thought as to the relations of landlord and tenant under the English law and under the Indian law. Therefore, I oppose the amendment."

* The Hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"Mr. President, Sir, I am afraid I cannot accept this amendment. My hon. Friend, Mr. Patnaik, has dealt with this amendment at considerable length and I do not think that is necessary for me to add very much. I do not think, Sir, that the inamdars will suffer very badly on account of their being not

A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE MADRAS ESTATES LAND ACT, 1908, 823
FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES (BILL NO. 12 OF 1931)—CONSIDERATION
OF AMENDMENTS RECOMMENDED BY HIS EXCELLENCY
THE GOVERNOR

24th March 1934] [Sir Archibald Campbell]

able for a few months to take action under the various sub-clauses in my hon. Friend's amendment in cases where they claim the kudivaram right as well as melvaram right in land but have not obtained decrees to that effect. Such inamdars would be tempted by this clause to give notice to all their tenants under sub-clause 5 or 6, at the end of the current fasli and the tenants would then be ousted from their land; another strong objection to this clause is that if I accept it, it may be represented that I have admitted implicitly that the ryot of an inam is in the same position as the cultivating verumpattamdar in Malabar who has been given fixity of tenure by the Malabar Tenancy Act. The position is entirely different. The tenant who is benefited under the Malabar Tenancy Act is a sub-tenant of the janmi or of some intermediate tenant under the janmi and we recognize that the janmi as the pattadar has the occupancy right in the land. The whole point is whether these so-called tenants of the inamdars have occupancy rights in the land or are merely sub-tenants like the cultivating verumpattamdars on the West Coast. If we accept this amendment, we shall be giving away the whole position and admitting by implication that inamdars' tenants have no occupancy rights in any case. I cannot therefore accept the amendment."

* The KUMARARAJA OF VENKATAGIRI:—"I am afraid I have also to oppose the amendment given notice of by my hon. Friend from Madura for the reasons dealt at length by my hon. Friend, Mr. Patnaik, and the Hon. the Revenue Member. Sir, in this connexion I may be permitted to state on behalf of the Justice Party, the Party to which I have the honour to belong, how we expect the Government to give effect to the assurance given to us by the Hon. the Revenue Member, this afternoon. Sir, in this connexion, I may also state as one who pleaded for some sort of safeguard against confiscatory legislation that we have assured ourselves that the case on behalf of the inam ryot remains unanswered, and that so long as it remains unanswered we have no hesitation to say that we support this legislation. It is also our hope Sir, that since there will not be a very long period between now and the day on which the legislation will be introduced, this amendment will be opposed by all sections. We are very sorry that this re-committal has been made. Anyhow, we are glad for one reason. Hereafter, it cannot be said with any justification that this legislation has been rushed through. For these reasons, I oppose the amendment moved by my hon. Friend from Madura."

The amendment was put and lost.

* Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—"Mr. President, Sir, I move—

"that in the proviso to sub-clause (2) of clause 127, at the end add the words, "which has become final"."

824 A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE MADRAS ESTATES LAND ACT, 1908,
FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES (BILL NO. 12 OF 1931)—CONSIDERATION
OF AMENDMENTS RECOMMENDED BY HIS EXCELLENCY
THE GOVERNOR

[Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo] [24th March 1934]

“ We find in the previous paragraph that all the proceedings should be stayed. Unless the word ‘ final ’ is used it would appear there is some inconsistency. To make the intention of the draft of the amendment clear I wish to add the amendment. It becomes final when no appeal is preferred. Therefore, it is necessary to make the amendment clear.”

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—“ I second it.”

The Hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—“ I have no objection to accede to this amendment.”

The amendment was put and carried.

* Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR:—“ I beg to move—

*‘ that in the said sub-clause after the proviso add the following:
“ or to any proceeding in ejectment of a tenant for the grounds mentioned in section 151 of the Madras Estates Land Act or to any suit for the recovery of rent due from the tenant ”.’ ”*

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ Is it not covered by the amendment that has been thrown out? ”

* Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR:—“ No. No doubt, the position is analogous, but not exactly the same. It cannot be said that it is the same.”

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ The hon. Member may continue his speech.”

* Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR:—“ No doubt, I first moved for the deletion of the words ‘ all proceedings involving decision whether or not the inamdar has kudivaram right in such a land.’ When the question of jurisdiction becomes the issue, it would stand barred under that language. The indirect effect of it might be to hold up a trial of the claim for rent-dues. But it is different from the amendment which is a much more restricted amendment as I have now proposed in the fifth amendment. The question is whether the House really and in terms wants to shut out a trial by the munsif or the sub-judge of a claim for recovery of rent, which in future would fall due from the tenant on the footing that he is an occupancy ryot. Now the decision is directly whether it is a lessee or a tenant or an occupancy tenant, the suit may be stayed as has been resolved upon by the House. But, as it was not the intention of the House in passing that clause that the claim for rent proper should also stand prevented from being tried, I now put the *bona fides* of the House to test by putting this narrow amendment which is confined strictly to a trial of suits for rents leaving open the question of occupancy right being vested in one party or in the other and have a decree only in respect of the limited claim which is an admitted claim, namely, a rent due from the tenant. Is it the view of the House that even this should be closed and forbidden? Therefore, the vote of this House on this amendment will put to the acid

A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE MADRAS ESTATES LAND ACT, 1908, 825
FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES (BILL NO. 12 OF 1931)—CONSIDERATION
OF AMENDMENTS RECOMMENDED BY HIS EXCELLENCY
THE GOVERNOR

24th March 1934] [Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar]

test their claim that they are really not hitting the inamdar in essential respects and they are not preventing him from getting a decree for rent which in any view of the case will be found due. This is an amendment which is fair and justifiable. I hope the House will accept it."

Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM PANTULU:—"I second it."

* The Hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"Mr. President, Sir, I am afraid I cannot accept this amendment. A suit would be brought, I take it, in the civil court, only in cases in which the inamdar claims the kudivaram right. But the main question is whether he has any kudivaram right or not. A suit for recovery of rent by an inamdar who does not claim the kudivaram right could be brought under the Rent Recovery Act; the amendments proposed by His Excellency will not affect such proceedings. If the amendment now proposed by my hon. Friend is carried, the inamdars will be obtaining practically a decision in their favour on points which are to be considered later by this House when the further Bill is introduced. I cannot therefore accept this amendment."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I will now put the amendment to the vote of the House. The question is—

3-15
p.m.

'In the said sub-clause after the proviso add the following: "or to any proceeding in ejectment of a tenant for the grounds mentioned in section 151 of the Madras Estates Land Act or to any suit for the recovery of rent due from the tenant".'

The amendment was lost.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I will now put to the House amendment No. 7 of His Excellency the Governor. The question is—

'Renumber clause 127 as sub-clause (1) of that clause and in the clause as so renumbered, for the words "nothing in this Act," substitute the words "subject to the provisions of sub-section (2), nothing in this Act" and, to that clause, add the following as sub-clause (2):—

"(2) No tenant in possession on the first day of November 1933 of any land in an inam village, not being an estate within the meaning of sub-clause (d) of clause (2) of section 3 of the said Act as amended by this Act, or admitted by the inamdar to possession of any such land subsequent to the said date, shall be liable to be ejected until the first day of November 1935 and all proceedings in ejectment of any such tenant and all proceedings involving a decision whether or not the inamdar has the kudivaram right in such land, shall be stayed until the first day of November 1935:

[The President]

[24th March 1934]

“ Provided that nothing contained in this sub-section shall apply to any land the kudivaram interest in which has been declared or recognized before the first day of November 1933 to vest in the inamdar by a decree or order of a competent court ”. ”

The amendment was carried.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ All the amendments referred to the Council have been passed. The Bill as re-affirmed with amendments will be again presented to His Excellency for his assent.”

V.—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1934-35.

DEMAND XX—PUBLIC HEALTH—TRANSFERRED.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ The House will now resume the discussion on Mr. Basu Dev's cut motion under Demand XX.”

* Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—“ Mr. President, Sir, the other day, when the House rose, I was referring to certain pamphlets which had been issued by the Neo-Malthusian League of Madras and which had been, in fact, placed on the table of the House. Sir, one of those pamphlets was an extract of the proceedings of the House of Lords regarding this question of birth-control clinics. Hon. Members who had cared to go through that pamphlet would have known what it was that the House of Lords actually resolved upon in that case. In England, certain charitable and philanthropic institutions organized by private individuals or associations were carrying on work in maternity and child welfare and for that work the Government was giving them a certain grant. One of the conditions which at that time had to be conformed to before this grant could be earned was that nothing connected with birth-control, either by way of instructions or otherwise, should be encouraged or countenanced in those institutions. All that the House of Lords resolved to do was to remove this condition the compliance with which was necessary for the purpose of earning the grant. Therefore, the attitude recommended by that resolution was merely one of removing a restriction on private persons unconnected with the Government, carrying on work in favour of birth-control. Sir, to interpret the proceedings of the House of Lords, or to consider that pamphlet as being in support of an agitation for the establishment of birth-control clinics by Government as part and parcel of its medical institutions is, it seems to me, wholly unfounded. Even to-day the Government in England has not given any official recognition to these birth-control clinics, nor do these things form part of any of the public institutions maintained out of public funds. We have it on the very high authority of no less a person than Justice Sir Ramesam, that even in countries like France and Italy, the Governments have never recognized or advocated birth-control. Nor have they actively rendered any assistance towards birth-control propaganda. But, we know that, in spite of this governmental indifference, the people of those countries

24th March 1934] [Mr. A. T. Pannirselvam]

had been increasingly adopting birth-control methods—on such a devastating scale that their Governments have been moved away from their attitude of indifference to an attitude of active antagonism towards the birth-control forces. In Italy, Sgr. Mussolini has found it necessary to ban any reference to birth-control and even in our neighbouring town of Pondicherry we find that the French Government have promulgated a law that anyone who advocates birth-control or advertises articles connected with birth-control or exhibits them for sale is liable to be prosecuted. Sir, we here do not want this Government to adopt that attitude. We do not want this Government to condemn birth-control by legislation or otherwise. We do not want them to issue an order to their servants that they are not to give any instruction in birth-control. All that we say is 'Hold back your hand' as the Governments in the West have been doing. This idea of birth-control is a thing borrowed from the West. However much certain persons may proclaim that the Hindu Sastras of the ancient days have advocated it, we all know that this is an idea borrowed from the West. So now, if you are going to borrow this idea from the West, you must also borrow the attitude of the West towards it and adopt the same indifferent attitude which the West has been adopting. We do not want the Government to go an inch further than that. I find it necessary to emphasize this particular point because in certain quarters our attitude towards this question has been completely misunderstood. We have heard it said by certain people that the Catholics are not merely not for birth-control but that they want to force their views down on other people. As I explained the other day, that is certainly not our attitude. We only want the Government not to give any countenance to this. We do not want them to issue any instructions to their subordinates that they should or may give instructions for people who seek it. In fact the issue of a circular to their subordinates that they are free to give instructions to anybody that might seek them is unnecessary and uncalled for. To-day I am not aware of any rule which prevents a medical officer from imparting instructions in these matters if it is really sought and if a medical officer feels so inclined.

"Sir, into the merits of the question whether birth-control practice is an evil or an advantage, I do not propose to go. For the last few months this question has been engaging the attention of the public of this Province and arguments *pro* and *contra* have been advanced *ad nauseum*. Certainly, those arguments could not be put forward by me more ably than has been done. I would only say this: if you want any further idea in the matter let hon. Members have recourse to that excellent pamphlet called 'Birth-control—a Death-trap' which has been circulated, though non-officially, to hon. Members of this House.

[At this stage the Chairman (Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar) occupied the Chair vacated by the Hon. the President.]

"Before concluding, I should just like to advert to a matter which has been already touched upon by my hon. Friend from South Kanara and that is the attitude which certain Government officials have been

[Mr. A. T. Pannirselvam] [24th March 1934]

adopting in this connexion. Sir, the Hon. the Law Member seems to have completely misunderstood the point which my hon. Friend, Mr. Sreshta, wanted to make. Mr. Sreshta, I am sure, did not by any means intend to say that Justice Sir Ramesam was not entitled to have his views. He is certainly entitled to have his views and also to express them openly on any platform on any matter provided it did not raise severe controversy and provided the Government had not to come to a decision on it. Sir, this is a matter which, though according to certain people, of a social character, has assumed during the last few months, considerable political importance. Agitation has been carried on, on both sides and people are waiting to know the final decision of the Government in the matter.

3-30
p.m.

“And all that I wish to say is that, for a gentleman occupying the position of a High Court Judge to enter the open arena on a matter of this character is to say the least of it, putting the other side completely at a disadvantage. And regarding certain of his speeches on this matter, there is one particular point to which I think it necessary to draw special attention on this occasion. In cataloguing the various groups of humanity, which according to him are adopting birth-control, he is able to include, in one sweep the Hindus; because the Sastras, according to his interpretation, accept birth-control, and so all Hindus are in favour of birth-control. As regards the Muslims, he somehow concludes that they are in favour of birth-control, and the Protestants are all in favour of birth-control because the Lambeth Conference by a majority so decides. Not content with all this array, the small community of Catholics, he is unable to leave out completely; for he goes on to say that the Catholics, though in theory opposed, are, a large number of them, in practice actually adopting birth-control. I only want the House to realize the implications of that statement. Does it not mean that the Catholic community or at least a large section of the community is preaching one thing and practising another, that they are leading, so to say, a double life all the 24 hours and that they are in fact humbugs. (Laughter.) Sir, this is the meaning of his statement.”

MR. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—“On a point of order, Sir, is it in order for an hon. Member to criticize a gentleman who is not before the House, and so who will not be able to answer the criticism?”

* THE CHAIRMAN:—“I would draw the attention of the hon. Member to the remarks of the Hon. Law Member that Government are not responsible for the private views of High Court Judges.”

* RAO BHADUR A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—“Sir, my remarks are not aimed at Justice Ramesam; they are all made by way of criticizing Government, who are responsible for the action of the servants in their employ. When these gentlemen get upon platforms and begin to attack particular communities, what other course, or remedy has one except to appeal to Government through this House? It is only by way of criticizing the Government that I refer to this matter.”

24th March 1934]

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"You cannot take Government to task for the extra official duties of their servants."

* The CHAIRMAN:—"I have already drawn the attention of the hon. Member that this is a matter of social reform, and as pointed out by the Hon. the Law Member the other day Government cannot be held responsible for the private views of their servants."

Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"Sir, I was particularly referring to the remarks regarding my community . . ."

* The CHAIRMAN:—"Order, order."

* Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"Sir, I want to explain myself. I was only complaining about a remark that he made about a community, to which I have the honour to belong and a community which I represent in this House. It seems to me, Sir, that when that community is insulted by whomsoever it might be, it is my duty to protest against that, and I shall not pursue that subject any further."

"Mr. Basheer Ahmed also referred to another question, and that is about the National Health Association of Madras having been refused the grant which they were receiving previously. It seems to me it would have been helpful to us if the hon. Member had told us what exactly was the kind of work which that association was doing, so that we could judge whether that work is being done more efficiently by somebody else, and whether the work was worth voting for. I now learn that all the work which this association is carrying on is the delivering of a few lectures occasionally within the city of Madras. I also understand that the Corporation has for some time now launched out on a large campaign of health lectures in various parts of the city almost every day in the week. I am told by as high an authority as Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar that health lectures with the aid of magic lanterns are being delivered in as many as six places every day. There are also special lectures held for women. I do not know if the National Health Association is intended merely to carry on a similar kind of work; and if therefore there be not overlapping in their work, and if so is it worthwhile allotting any public funds on that behalf."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"On a point of correction, Sir . . ."

Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"Is it a point of order, Sir . . ."

* The CHAIRMAN:—"It is not a point of order."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"On a point of personal explanation, Sir . . ."

* The CHAIRMAN:—"I don't think the hon. Member has spoken before."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"I have spoken some time back and it is to that the hon. Member from Tanjore is referring. I have said in my speech before, that there is scope for starting more than . . ."

[Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed]

[24th March 1934]

half a dozen associations of this sort in the city; and that instead of the mortality rate falling down we see it increasing and that is a justification for Government starting National Health Associations."

* Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"I should only wish to say that coming as I do from the mufassal I should enter my caveat against the granting of any sum of money for a purpose which is already being done by the Corporation. If there is really further scope for doing this sort of work the Corporation would as well do it.

"I may also state that side by side with the National Health Association there is another body which was started under very good auspices, in fact under patronage of Lady Willingdon. It has been carrying on work on a very efficient standard, and on a line which does not come into conflict or overlap with the work which is being carried on by the Corporation. Their sphere of work is not limited to the city; it extends to the whole Province. They are engaged in doing valuable service connected with the health of the Province. They are also holding conferences connected with health work, and in such conferences they decide their future plan of work. And their work has been commented upon favourably by several persons competent to speak about the matter, namely, the Director of Public Instruction, the Director of Public Health and the Surgeon-General. It seems to me that such a body as that deserves every encouragement at the hands of the Government, and when even that body has not been allotted any grant for the last so many years, I certainly am not able to see how Mr. Basheer Ahmed can justify the claim of the National Health Association.

"Just one word, Sir, about the office of the Director of Public Health. That is a work which requires not merely a knowledge of the technique of the subject but one which requires a thorough knowledge of the whole Province. For a post like that we want a person who has not merely the requisite professional knowledge; he should have had considerable previous experience of the people, and should be able to get into close touch with presidents of local bodies and chairmen of municipalities. I may say that if the scheme propounded by its founder, the late Raja of Panagal, was an immediate success, it was in no small measure due to Major Russell, who was the first Director of Public Health, who began by acquainting himself with the state of things in almost every part of the Province, who made it a point to meet every local board president during his tours, discuss details with them, and then after in this way gaining considerable experience, he was able to launch forth a scheme which showed substantial results. It seems to me that because of his success he was retained in office for a fairly large number of years, and in filling up the place, which I understand is falling vacant in the near future, I should suggest to Government, if I may, that the claims of the Assistant Directors, who have past experience in the field of health should be considered."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak. Coming first to what

24th March 1934] [Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar]

our friend, Mr. Basu Dev, said that there is a monopoly of all the posts by one community in the office of the Director of Public Health and that there is indiscipline, Sir, this does not come as a surprise to me. If the number of people in position are of one community, they will not give opportunities for members of other communities to thrive. That is why I have been saying all along that people belonging to different communities should be represented in an office or in a district or taluk. I am not saying that all people who are in high positions will favour their own community. There are several exceptions. I know Hon. Sir Usman is in high position and he is fair to all communities; the Hon. the Chief Minister is anxious to mete out justice to all communities. On the other hand, we have our Hon. Mr. Rajan who, not only does not do anything for his own community, but goes out of the way to do harm to his community. (Laughter.) So that, what I urge is that men from all communities should be represented in every office. So, I request the Hon. the Chief Minister to see that proper measures are taken in this matter. Till now we have been saying that every post in an office was occupied by the Brahman; that is gone now. Now any community that is predominant does harm to other communities. So, it is not the Brahman that we should take care of now but any community that tries to monopolize. I say all higher posts in an office should not belong to one community. There was one medical officer who was in charge of malaria work in Mettur. When the League of Nations Malaria Commission toured round India, they praised his work in the following terms:

'At the Mettur Dam where medical treatment and hygiene are so well organized, a malaria epidemic was stopped at the Salem camp and the splenic index reduced from 47 per cent to 7 per cent by treating the sick for three weeks and also by giving quinine as a preventive.'

Due to the organization of this officer, the rate of attack was brought down from 47 per cent to 7 per cent.

"And then, the League of Nations Malaria Commission go on to say:

'The Mettur Dam works on the Cauvery river (Madras Presidency) although in a less malarious country have produced a far more interesting problem.'

"Then again, they say further:

'We are convinced that if this work had been in progress at the time of our visit we are sure that it would have been shown to us as just as successful a piece of work as, for example, the protection of the labour camps in Mettur.'

Out of the twenty photographs of all the works found all over India including the Mysore State, we have got six of them belonging to Mettur alone.

"Sir, although the work of the officer is praised by the League of Nations Malaria Commission, he is not wanted in Mettur, perhaps because he does not belong to the community which is not prominent there. He is not wanted by the people in office of the Director of Public Health, because though he is an Indian Christian, he does not belong to that Christian community which is predominant in the office of the Director of Public Health. The Madras Indian Christians do not want

3-45
p.m.

[Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar] [24th March 1934]

him. Whereas, the Indian Christians of Mangalore want him and go to him.

"Then, Sir, with regard to the post of Director of Public Health, it is a Provincial appointment and there ought to be a Provincial Indian there according to the report of the Royal Commission. But now we have got an Anglo-Indian I.M.S. officer. I request the Hon. the Chief Minister to note that the family to which Major Hesterlow belongs is a well-known medical family of the Presidency and Major Hesterlow himself is an able man and I therefore appeal to the Hon. the Chief Minister to see that Major Hesterlow is made permanent as Director of Public Health. The appointment of Director of Public Health was overdue to him.

"Sir, I am extremely thankful to my hon. Friend, Mr. Pannirselvam, for having spoken about health propaganda. I believe I am one of the Committee members and also Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed. The Corporation men are doing intense propaganda in the city of Madras, two meetings for a day for the northern range, two for the southern range of the city, one for women in the north and another for women in the south. The National Health Association hold similar meetings once in a way. Their meeting is a fifth wheel to a carriage. They are overlapping. We have got a new Surgeon-General as the President of the Board and a new Secretary. I hope these authorities concerned will divert their work in more useful directions. I hope hereafter at least the work of the National Health Association will not overlap the intense work done by the Corporation of Madras.

"Another thing about which my hon. Friend spoke was that relating to the Health Propaganda Board. When the Corporation refused to co-operate with the National Health Association in holding the Annual Health Exhibition, I strongly fought for the association. When Mr. Muthiah Mudaliyar was the Minister I approached him for a larger grant. The result of it was the association tried to stab me in the dark. The methods employed to achieve this is not, to use mild language, desirable. They caused mental agony and torture to a number of people who were earnestly and sincerely carrying on unprecedented health work in the city."

* The CHAIRMAN:—"The Hon. the Chief Minister requires 20 minutes to reply. So, I hope the hon. Member will finish his speech soon."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"This health propaganda is catering to some of the needs of the district boards and municipalities of almost the whole Presidency. In Madras, besides many institutions, there are about forty-four schools which are benefited by the work of the Health Propaganda Board. This is what the Director of Public Instruction says in his foreword concerning this work:

"I have derived much pleasure and profit from a study of the papers at the Conference of Medical Inspectors held in Madras in August last (1932). The conference which was the first of its kind in this Presidency has doubtless rendered excellent service to the health supervision movement in schools by drawing atten-

24th March 1934]

[Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar]

tion to its chief defects. The Health Propaganda Board deserves thanks for having brought together experts from different parts of the Province for this purpose.

and he concludes by saying:

‘The papers read before the conference and the speeches delivered are of definite interest as indicating the lines of future progress.’

“Sir, Major Sprawson and Colonel Webb (the Director of Public Health) have spoken very highly of the excellent work which the Board has been doing. We are greatly obliged to Colonel Webb for the deep interest he has taken in the working of the Health Propaganda Board.

“Being a medical man myself they want me to speak on birth-control. My opinion is that birth-control should be practised only on medical grounds. It is an experienced medical lady that should give advice to a lady patient on medical grounds. To increase the period between the births also comes under medical grounds. Birth-control in fact is wanted in some places, but it is not wanted in others. It is not wanted in Italy, perhaps it is the reverse in some other countries. Let us wait and see how things get on in our country.”

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—“Within the short time at my disposal, I may briefly refer to the points raised by hon. Members. Mr. Basu Dev wants me to bring in a consolidated Public Health Act. I remember seeing the various drafts connected with the details of this scheme and on a further examination of those details it was found that such a consolidation required a good deal of funds which could not be found at the present time.

“My friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed, mentioned about the National Health Association and the grants made to it. Some others mentioned about Health Propaganda Board. Sometime back the Government advised both these bodies to amalgamate and act as a single association. I am sorry these attempts have failed. This year owing to the necessity of granting land revenue remissions, the usual grants to all the departments had to be reduced and in that connexion it was found that that organization had sufficient funds at its disposal to carry on their work for this year and so the grant was stopped. Government have however promised that they would give a grant of Rs. 1,000 if the Board is able to raise a similar amount itself.

“My friend, Mr. Krishnayya Choudari, has brought to my notice the undesirability of cancelling the Government Order with regard to the appointment of midwives. It is not quite correct to say that the Government have prohibited the appointment of midwives. As a measure of retrenchment Government issued an order that in future they would not be able to pay subsidies for these poorer boards. It is still open to them if they can find necessary funds to appoint additional midwives.

“Another point he mentioned is about the system of compulsory vaccination. I shall consider that point.

“My friend, Mr. Koti Reddi, suggested that Government should provide suitable text-books dealing with public health matters. I believe

[The Raja of Bobbili]

[24th March 1934]

there are certain text-books already available dealing with this subject and I will consider how far Government will be able to help the public in this direction. He has also stated that the Ceded districts deserve special treatment with regard to water-supply in rural and urban areas. We have sanctioned a number of schemes in recent years. Special treatment has been given to Ceded districts. As a rule we have been giving three-fourths as grant and one-fourth as loan. As regards Cuddapah municipality on an examination it has been found that the municipality will be able to meet the cost on half loan and half grant basis. The scheme has been sanctioned on this condition.

“Many hon. Members have mentioned about the question of permanent appointment of Director of Public Health. The matter is still under consideration and I am afraid it will not be possible for me to say definitely what decision the Government will take. But I may state that no Provincial Government will be willing to go outside its Province for filling up a Provincial post if a suitable man is available in that Government. I do not wish to go outside our Province if we can get a suitable man here.”

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—“Have not Deputy Directors of Public Health been found suitable?”

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—“The claims of all the men now available in the Province as well as Assistant Directors of Public Health will be taken into consideration before Government pass their orders. In this connexion I may also state that these are technical appointments. We have to take into consideration the opinion of technical advisers of the Government on this matter. As I have said before no decision has been arrived at on this question and I shall certainly do my best to avoid going outside the Province for this appointment.

“Before I conclude, I will have to refer to the subject of birth-control which since our discussions last year has assumed some importance in this Province. Much of the criticisms which have been levelled against Government in the Press and on the platform during recent months seems to be misinformed and misguided. They have assumed that Government are going to do many things which they have not been considering. As far as Government are concerned, they have no intention at present of starting any birth-control clinics or birth-control propaganda.

4 p.m. “For the present, it is no doubt a very difficult matter for Government to take any action. In matters like this, it is for the public opinion to assert itself first one way or the other. As far as Government are concerned, I believe it is not necessary to go into the matter on its merits or take any decision on the subject. They consider that it is part of the duties, the professional duties of medical officers to give such advice as they consider is in the best interests of those who seek such advice and it is not for the Government to say what advice a doctor should give on professional matters. Of course, I find from one side criticism levelled against Government for actions which they might probably take and from the other side criticisms levelled against Govern-

24th March 1934]

[The Raja of Bobbili]

ment for their inactivity. Whatever might be the course of action which Government will have to follow in future—because this problem of population will no doubt have to be tackled by Indian statesmen before very long—as far as Government's intentions at present are concerned, they do not wish to take any action which is calculated to be in advance of public opinion at the present moment. We, therefore, consider that this is not a case in which Government can take any active measures one way or the other and I do not see how any community belonging to any religious denomination can take objection when the Government consider that this is a matter which should be left to the medical profession to tackle in accordance with what they think are the best interests of the patients that go to them. As a matter of fact, my own information is that even now, when patients go to doctors, they do give advice on birth control methods. What Government would like to ensure is that when such advice is given, only proper advice is given which is not harmful to the public. Apart from this, as I have stated clearly—and I do not want to leave any misapprehension in the minds of any one—Government had never had any intention and have no intention of either starting birth control clinics or carrying on public propaganda. As a matter of fact, this question has been under the consideration of the Government since last year and we have not come to any conclusion on it, nor have we any cut and dried plan."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"If local bodies start birth control clinics, will the Government support them?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"You start them and the Government will then consider the question. I wish to conclude my remarks by saying that the apprehensions expressed by various Members that the Government are going to do something is unfounded. Whatever actions the Government may do, they will be so devised as not to give any offence to any minority or any community in this country. In this connexion I wish to read a short extract from the speech of Sir John Megaw, who emphasized the need for India facing the problem of her population which is calculated to reach the limit of 400 millions in 1941. He has said that India has now become a most populous country in the world and it will be necessary for Governments and Indian statesmen to take up this problem before it is too late. (Mr. Hameed Khan: 'Earthquakes will take care of them.') There are various methods by which this problem can be and has to be tackled and I hope this question of birth control will not be the only solution and that the public will not consider that whenever this problem of India's population is mentioned, they would not consider that it refers only to birth control. But all those who speak so vaguely and loosely about increasing the standard of living will have before long to devote their attention to this question of population and devise methods and means by which this problem, which in the opinion of some, will be a danger to the country, could be faced."

The cut motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the grant was made.

[24th March 1934]

DEMAND XXI—AGRICULTURE—TRANSFERRED.

* The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Mr. Chairman, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

' that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 16,78,400 under Demand XXI—Agriculture—Transferred '."

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA:—" Mr. Chairman, I beg to move—

' that the allotment of Rs. 2,700 for Agriculture—Direction—Pay of Officers, be reduced by Rs. 100.'

I want to criticise the policy of Government in regard to agriculture.

" Sir, India's greatest problem is food-supply. Before I proceed further I want to quote a few statements made by some distinguished personages in support of my contention. Sir W. W. Hunter once said:

' The English in India are now called upon either to stand by and witness the pitiless overcrowding of masses of hungry humanity or to aid the people in increasing their food-supply to meet their wants.'

The Hon. Mr. F. Nicholson, Member of the Viceroy's Council, once rightly said that agriculture in India is starved by the Government with the largest land revenue in the world. Mr. W. Cook also on one occasion said that there is no more pathetic situation in the whole range of human history than to watch these dull patient masses stumbling in their traditional way along a path which can only lead to suffering. Sir H. S. Cunningham rightly estimated that 90 per cent of the rural and 80 per cent of the total population of India is closely connected with land and that from these unfortunate people the Government of India draws the largest revenue. In other words, the largest revenue is drawn from the poorest peasants in the world. Sir, these are not my own statements; they are the statements made by Britishers themselves. Keeping these statements in view, I shall see if I can make any suggestions to the departmental heads. I should like to deal with the subject item by item and first of all I will take the question of agricultural education. Now this department gives practical training in agriculture to the boys in some of its schools. But the course offered to the boys in this respect is not very encouraging. The department has also opened farm-labour schools at Anakapalle, Coimbatore and Palur, but these three schools are not at all promising. Another step which the department has taken is to open the vocational school at Muthanandal. This school is maintained by the district board of Ramnad. Agriculture is introduced in the curriculum of the school and a diploma-holder in agriculture has been added to the staff. The result of this remains to be seen. The department also started some agricultural middle schools. But the school at Anakapalle was closed after having been in existence for two or three years. The same was the case with the school at Taliparamba which was also closed after a short time. The one at Kalahasti was never opened. The last one is at Usilampatti. It is still living, but it may die a natural death after some time. There is one Central Agricultural College at Coimbatore which is doing splendid work, but

24th March 1934] [Mr. G. R. Premayya]

year by year the college is attracting less students. Sir, the schools started by the Government here and there have not given good results. In my speech last year on this Demand, I very vividly pointed out to the Hon. Minister that agricultural education given to the students of France had saved a lot to that country. France has an optional course in agriculture in her primary schools. Not only France but Holland and several other countries also. Several European countries have saved much by the agricultural education given to their students in the primary and middle schools.

"In our Presidency the Government have started schools separately for imparting instruction in agriculture. Last year I advised the Government to add this course to the regular course. Nothing has been done. They are not trying in any way to diffuse this education to the masses. Government have done something by way of legislation. Government have passed some Acts—The Cotton Ginning Process Act, The Cotton Transport Act, The Cotton Central Act and lastly The Commercial Crops Act. All these Acts go to show that the Government are trying to avoid their responsibility to the country. If young men and adults know something of agriculture, they will be in a position to supervise their lands. Agricultural education is very bad as I said. 4-15 P.M.

"We want great improvement with regard to cattle. According to the last census, we have 3 crores of people in India. There are 26 crores of domestic cattle in India. This figure excludes sheep and wild cattle of the jungles. This works out to 65 head of cattle for every 100 of the population. Hence in the densely populated areas there is very keen competition, economic competition between human beings and the cattle for the produce of the soil. My observation leads to the inference that over 90 per cent of the cattle are an economic loss to the country. The Indian cow does not pay either by way of milk or by offspring. A student of Indian Economics cannot but admit that the enormous number of cattle do not pay their way; so they are very serious economic drain to the whole country. It is not more cattle but better cattle that India needs. Without fear of contradiction I can say that the English cows give 4 or 6 times more milk than our Indian cows. When America are using our Indian buffaloes for milk, why not we import American or English cows to our country? If we can get rid of the enormous number of worthless cattle, we can save more money from the department by abolishing three-fourths of the establishment.

"From cattle I pass on to crops. Let me tell you something about our staple crops, according to the present distribution of circles. I can prove that the Seventh Circle produces 60 per cent of rice; the Sixth Circle—50 per cent; Fifth Circle—47 per cent; Fourth Circle—40 per cent; Second Circle—26 per cent and the First Circle—24 per cent. This shows that the staple crops of our Province is increasing. When the Madras Presidency is producing this much of paddy, why should not our Hon. Minister take some action in the matter? I learn that

[Mr. G. R. Premayya]

[24th March 1934]

he did something in this direction. Why should Assam rice be imported into our Province when we have enough rice here for our people? Why should surplus paddy be imported in our country? Supposing our people are trying to purchase paddy from Assam, the Hon. the Minister should put a stop to such import and move the Government of India to do the same. When paddy does not sell, if rice is imported from other countries, the ryots would be in a very bad and miserable condition. I shall try to explain the miserable plight of the ryots. Ignorant as they are, they do not invest their money in banks. Year after year the surplus money they have, is invested in purchasing extra land. So, all they have now is land, and nothing else. They do not have money; but they have land. Land produces only paddy; what the people do not have, the Government want; the Government wants the kist to be paid in money and the ryots do not have any money but only paddy. The Government wants money; they do not like to take the kist in kind; so the ryots feel they are between the devil and the deep sea. At this stage when the ryot finds it difficult to get money for the produce of the land and when he is not able to find out any other better crop to be raised from his land, this department should come forward and try to help him. Although the Hon. Minister has promised many a time that he would give his best consideration, I do not think he has done any good to the ryot up till now. The other day, to one of my questions he replied that he is trying to improve the condition of the ryot by advising a better crop to be grown on paddy land.

“One point more, Sir, and I will finish. We have many crops which produce oil-seeds; these oil-seeds are imported into England; by doing so the country loses heavily. We get oil from England; we get oil-cakes from England; we export oil-seeds and we get oil and oil-cake from foreign countries. Instead of exporting these oil-seeds, if we make use of the seeds in this Province itself, we will get oil-cakes for fertilizers and we will get them cheaper also. We have groundnut, gingelly and castor-oil seeds. These three oil-seeds will give lot of oil. We will get oil at a cheaper cost and we can give oil-cakes to our cattle which will be of great help to the ryot. Fertilizers are sold in our country at a very high rate. If the Hon. Minister wants to help the ryots, he can do so, by introducing machines to crush bones. Green manure, oil-cakes, etc., will be of great use to the ryots. If the Hon. Minister would advise the ryots, with the help of his experts, they will be greatly benefited. If that is done, the ryots would not feel the economic depression so much. With these words I move my cut motion.”

MR. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHAUDARI:—“Sir, in delta districts we are growing plenty of rice; the Agricultural department have not suggested any other crop which is suitable for wet cultivation. No doubt they have this year suggested growing sugarcane for paddy. But all on a sudden the Government of India have imposed excise duty; so the ryot is not able to understand whether it will be a paying

24th March 1934] [Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari]

crop to him especially when he has to incur great expenditure in raising the sugarcane crop. So the Agricultural department must take immediate steps and suggest some other crop which is suitable for wet land in delta areas particularly. There is no use of producing more rice at the present day. On account of low prices, the Government have to grant remissions in land revenue. It is the duty of the Agricultural department to suggest some other crop for replacing the rice crop; if that is done, the ryots would not demand any remission at all. In deltas, there are no demonstration plots which have wet lands. So, the Government are not making experiments in their own demonstration plots and show it to the ryots. What they are doing now is this: if we inform them that we will use our own land for the purpose, they supply us with some manure got from certain companies as an experimental measure. The department have no wet lands of their own in their demonstration plots and they do not demonstrate to the people by raising the crops in the Government land itself. In Kistna—Western division—also I know definitely that there are no demonstration plots. If we say that we are willing to give a portion of our land, then they ask us to try the experiment on our own land. If the ryot refused to try the experiment on his own land, the Government have no land of their own to demonstrate the experiment. What I say is that the Government must have some plots of their own and arrange some demonstration which is suitable for wet land areas. In a district where there is wet land only, there is no use of giving some demonstration on a dry land.

"I request the Government to see that the Agricultural department renders more help to the ryots. Another point I wish to refer to is this: the Government have not started agricultural middle schools on account of retrenchment. Though they need not start such schools now, they can change the curriculum of studies in the schools. If this subject is introduced in secondary schools, students who have completed the School Final Course may take to agriculture instead of roaming about, without doing any work. If the students are given some knowledge of agricultural work, it will be of great benefit to them and when they go out of their schools, they can look after their fields. Students who have studied up to the School Final Class will know something about agriculture. If instruction is given in Agriculture in the high schools, it will be of great use to agriculturists.

"Sir, the Guntur district is producing a large quantity of tobacco of a high quality, of many varieties. The Imperial Tobacco company is doing more propaganda in this respect than the Agricultural department. As a matter of fact, the Agricultural department has not taken any steps for improving the quality of the tobacco or encouraging its production. Though we have passed a Bill for giving marketing facilities, I am sorry no attempt is being made in the Guntur district to improve the condition of the tobacco industry. About two years back, the tobacco-growers produced tobacco on a large scale; but unfortunately the Imperial Tobacco Company did not buy a sufficient

4-30
p.m.

[Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari] [24th March 1934]

quantity from the people for export purposes; with the result that the people lost from 60 to 70 thousand rupees. The ryots were not able to sell their tobacco even at the rate of Rs. 10 per candy and several of them had to become insolvents for having grown tobacco. If the Agricultural department had given sufficient marketing facilities and helped the people, such a loss would not have occurred.

"I do not know, Sir, why, when there is a separate Veterinary department, the Agricultural department should be kept in charge of breeding bulls, etc. In other Provinces such as the United Provinces, etc., the Veterinary department is in charge of these breeding bulls. I have got a report of the United Provinces Government in this respect, and if the Hon. the Minister wants, I shall give him a copy. I do not want to waste the time of the House by reading extracts from it. I request the Hon. the Minister to see that these bulls are entrusted to the Veterinary department and that the Agricultural department is relieved of these duties.

"As regards demonstrators, we are at present having a very small number and they are not doing full justice to their duties. Each demonstrator is given one or two taluks and it is not possible for him to explain the utility of the department to the villagers. I therefore request the Hon. the Minister to increase the number of demonstrators, and also the number of demonstration plots.

"The Agricultural department was maintaining a breeding station near Kavali, and after having spent a large sum of money over it, they auctioned it—I think it was at Chintaldevi. They sold away all the animals in the livestock section. There is a lanka land near the Kistna river, which is very suitable for a breeding station. If there is a station there, it will be beneficial both to the Kistna and the Guntur districts. There is no use of having a station in a place like the Ceded districts which are not fertile. In the Bellary district, there is already one such station. I request the Government to shift that station to the lanka. I think this matter has already been brought to the notice of the Director of Agriculture by the Deputy Director of the Guntur circle. The animals also will enjoy greater comfort if they are kept in a place like the lanka where they can command excellent water facilities, etc. I hope the Government will consider this question sympathetically."

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Mr. President, Sir, if I rise on this occasion, it is not with a view to make any adverse remarks on the working of the Agricultural department, but with a view to bring to the notice of the Hon. the Minister a few points which touch my district of Nilgiris. To some of the interpellations put regarding the utility of the fruit gardens and the seed farms, the Hon. the Minister replied that a heavy cost was incurred on their maintenance. Sir, at present there are two fruit gardens in the Nilgiris and they have been in existence for more than twenty years now. But if anybody asks whether they are in any way useful to the public, the answer will

24th March 1934] [Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai]

certainly not be in the affirmative. A large quantity of fruits is being consumed in the Madras Presidency, and these fruit gardens have not been able to meet the demand, with the result that thousands of rupees are spent on the import of fruits from foreign countries and from other Provinces. The Agricultural department should devise some ways and means for the ryots to produce cheap fruit crops for the benefit of the people of the Province. Madras City itself is consuming a lot of fruits, and the distance between Madras and the Nilgiris is not much. If only the Government will encourage the growing of more fruit crops, the ryots will be benefited to a great extent.

"I have already brought to the notice of the Government on several previous occasions that the seed farm is of no use to the public at all. As a matter of fact, several ryots can produce equally good if not better seeds than what are now produced in the seed farm. Potato plantations have grown to such an extent that nearly sixty per cent of the population of the Nilgiris around Ootacamund and Coonoor have taken up to this profession. It is high time that the Government should think of encouraging the ryots to produce their own seeds in a better way, rather than spend thousands of rupees on the maintenance of this seed farm. I have no grievance against the staff employed either at the fruit gardens or at the seed farm, but I only want the Government to see that the thousands of rupees which the Government are spending on them are of advantage to the public in general.

"Another point that I want to bring to the notice of the Minister is that a large quantity of foreign potatoes is being dumped into our Province which works detrimentally to the interests of the ryots who grow potatoes. I know that last year, every week nearly 4,000 bags of potatoes were being brought from Burma into Madras and other coastal towns. Unless there is any check to this importation, I am afraid, the potato-growers in the Nilgiris will have to meet a big loss. Due to the advent of chemical manure, large plots of land are being taken up for potato-growing. I do not think Government have any check over the contents of the fertilizers that are now being sold to the potato-growers. Some firms and syndicates have recently been started for supplying manure and fertilizers, and I think it is high time that the Government should do something to see the manure of a good quality is supplied to the people for the money paid.

"I hope, Sir, the Hon. the Minister will consider all suggestions that I have put forward."

The PATTAGAR OF PALAYAKOTTAI spoke in Tamil.

* The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"My hon. Friend, Mr. Premayya, 4-45 p.m. complained about the lack of agricultural schools. As he himself pointed out the Government were maintaining two agricultural schools, one at Anakapalle and another at Taliparamba. These two schools had to be closed because they ceased to be popular. There are one or two schools maintained by the district boards—Ramanad and Madurai—and we do hope that they will not share the same fate, as the two

[Mr. P. T. Rajan]

[24th March 1934]

schools maintained by the Government and if they become popular I believe other district boards will copy their example.

“My Friend complained that agricultural subjects should be included in the curriculum of other schools. That suggestion cannot be carried out entirely by this department and should be done with the co-operation of the Education department. I do not know whether the mere inclusion of agricultural subjects in the elementary or middle schools without giving the students any practical training would be of any use. Anyhow, Sir, that is my opinion. Now that the suggestion has been placed before the Government, I would refer it to my Hon. Colleague in charge of Education and see what could be done in that direction. The Government are running an Agricultural College at Coimbatore where men are trained in the agricultural work and are awarded diplomas and degrees. Apart from that as an experimental measure a short course has been opened for the benefit of those who do not want a degree but who want training so that after their training they may be able to put to practical use what they have learnt at the college. The course is going through its first year and I hope it will prove to be popular and useful. If that is so, steps would be taken in different farms in the district to give practical demonstration.

“My Friend referred to the bad condition of livestock in the Presidency. As he pointed out in a Province like Madras which is purely an agricultural Province, there is every necessity that we should have a good livestock. Unfortunately, it has not been possible to devote that attention and care in that direction. I hope when the finances of the Province improve, it may be possible to improve the livestock of this Presidency. My Friend suggested the importation of cattle from England and America. No doubt in the cattle farm at Hosur, they were experimenting cross-breeding system and I do not think the foreign cattle thrive so well as the local stock and so the livestock section is paying its attention to improve the quality of the local breeds.

“My Friend referred to the miserable plight of ryots in that the ryots had assets only in the shape of grains and produce and were not able to meet even the current demands. The reason is that the agricultural people, instead of putting what they saved in the banks, invested their money on the purchase of lands. Now on account of the economic depression, the value of lands and prices of agricultural produce have gone down and consequently their income also has gone down. I believe that people hereafter will try to invest their money not on lands but in banks or business so that they may be sure of a regular income.”

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—“In the Land Mortgage Bank?”

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“Yes. The Land Mortgage Bank is one in which money can be invested.

“My Friend, Mr. Premayya, said that machines should be given to these agricultural people to press gingelly and other seeds and that demonstration should be carried out as how best these seeds could be

24th March 1934]

[Mr. P. T. Rajan]

crushed. It may not be possible to give effect to this suggestion just now but when the time comes and when the Government have got funds to spare they will pay attention in this direction.

“Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari said that in the delta they raised no crops except paddy and suggested the raising of alternative crops. The Agricultural department suggested that instead of paddy sugarcane may be grown. The difficulty seems to be not so much as the want of help that is given by the Agricultural department in regard to the crop but want of facilities for the marketing of the crops grown. I am afraid this is not a part of the normal work of the department to find marketing facilities. No doubt this department is trying to help the agriculturist in every possible direction but the question of marketing is not so simple as to be solved by one department alone. Government are trying to see that marketing facilities are provided.

“My friend complained about the lack of demonstration on wet lands in his district. That shows that no plot of land was available and that every available land in the area was under cultivation.”

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—“Why not buy some plot of land?”

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“Demonstration is being carried on on plots of land belonging to the ryots.”

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—“They wanted farms.”

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“It is not possible to have agricultural farms in every district. Whatever results arrived at in the Coimbatore College are transmitted to the people through demonstrations carried out on the lands of the ryots themselves. I think the increase of demonstrations is more likely to help the people to get better results than a mere increase in farms.”

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—“What are the existing farms meant for?”

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“They are not to carry out this demonstration. Demonstrations are carried out by the demonstrators in the plots belonging to the ryots so that not only the ryots in whose village the land is situated but also the neighbouring ryots may benefit. My friend also suggested that there is not sufficient number of demonstrators to go round the districts. The original programme of the department was that each taluk should have a demonstrator. But that programme had to be given up on account of retrenchment. It is not possible as matters stand at present to have demonstrators for each taluk. Even in cases where there are demonstrators for each taluk, their activities are confined to two or three centres so that their work of demonstration may be centralized and the benefit thereof may accrue to the ryots.

“My friend talked about the condition of the tobacco industry in Guntur district. The Imperial Tobacco Company were giving all facilities in respect of tobacco growing. When they did so, probably the Agricultural department thought that they could use their time in other directions. The difficulty seems to be that ryots were getting

[Mr. P. T. Rajan]

[24th March 1934]

good prices for tobacco and are now getting poor prices, for the reason that the trade is bad. Probably for want of competition amongst merchants and firms, the ryots cannot get better prices. I fear it is not within the province of the Agricultural department to control the prices."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"They can suggest some other markets where they can export tobacco."

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"As I said before, it is not possible for one department alone to undertake marketing facilities. With the revival of normal conditions, it may be possible for the tobacco to reach its former level of prices."

"He was saying that the livestock of this Province should not be kept in the hands of the Agricultural department and that it should be handed over to the Veterinary department. I am afraid this is not the time to deal with the question. I shall do it at a latter debate, in connexion with the Demand for Veterinary Services. When I give out reasons, my friend will see . . ."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"Government may continue the present practice if they are convinced that it is working well. I only suggested a transfer as a proper thing."

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Livestock is now under the control of the Agricultural department. The question of transfer has however been raised and it is under the consideration of Government and I hope I shall have the help of hon. Members before the question is decided."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I may remind the Hon. Member that it is time for the Demand to be put."

The cut motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the grant was made.

5 p.m. VI.—DEMANDS PASSED BY THE OPERATION OF THE GUILLOTINE.

As it was past 5 o'clock, the following outstanding Demands were put from the Chair and carried:—

	RS.
Demand XXII—Civil Veterinary Services—	
Transferred	8,59,700
Demand XXIII—Co-operative Societies—	
Transferred	11,03,600
Demand XXIV—Cinchona—Reserved	5,64,100
Demand XXV—Industries—Transferred	11,25,300
Demand XXVI—Fisheries—Transferred	5,59,900
Demand XXVII—Miscellaneous Departments—Reserved	9,69,700
Demand XXVIII—Miscellaneous Departments—Transferred	11,68,000
Demand XXIX—Civil Works—Reserved and Transferred	45,70,600

24th March 1934]

	RS.
Demand XXX—Civil Works—Establishment and Tools and Plant—Transferred ...	32,26,600
Demand XXXI—Civil Works—Grants-in-aid—Transferred	61,25,600
Demand XXXII—Famine Relief—Reserved.	1,00,000
Demand XXXIII—Pensions—Reserved ...	68,83,500
Demand XXXIV—Stationery and Printing—Reserved and Transferred	17,84,400
Demand XXXV—Miscellaneous—Reserved and Transferred	4,37,400
Demand XXXVI—Agency Tracts—Reserved.	21,25,900
Demand XXXVII—Expenditure in England other than on Stores—Reserved and Transferred	4,03,600
Demand XXXVIII—Refunds of Revenue—Reserved and Transferred	8,07,100
Demand XXXIX—Loans and Advances ...	55,13,700

VII.—PROROGATION.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I have to communicate to the House the following message which I have received from His Excellency the Governor:—

'In pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 72-B of the Government of India Act, I, George Frederic Stanley, Governor of Madras, do hereby prorogue the session of the Madras Legislative Council at the conclusion of its business on the 24th March 1934'."

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

வாய்மையே வெல்லும்
TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS